

Testimony of

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Before the

Education Committee

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Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

As you consider this bill, please think of the teachers in your life who taught you to read, write, and think critically. Consider all the late nights they spent grading and preparing materials for you. Think of all the mornings they woke up thinking of a new strategy they could use to help you succeed. I know this was their reality because it is the reality of teachers all around CT today. We are in this profession because we care about each student that enters our classroom. However, the needs of students have changed so much over the past decade. The demands of this profession has doubled and without the changes in this bill it is unsustainable. Support CT teachers as we have tirelessly supported our communities for generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

